ANTHOCYANIN-RICH COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR INHIBITING CANCER CELL GROWTH ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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The present invention provides compositions and methods for inhibiting the growth and cell cycle progression in carcinoma cells comprising the step of contacting the cells with an anthocyanin rich extract (ARE) in an amount effective to inhibit the growth and cell cycle progression of the carcinoma cells without effecting the growth and cell cycle progression on normal cells. The invention further provides therapeutic compositions and methods of inhibiting the growth and cell cycle progression of carcinoma cells in a patient comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of an anthocyanin-rich extract with the proviso that the anthocyanin rich extract does not effect the growth and cell cycle progression of normal cells in the patient. In preferred embodiments, the anthocyanin-rich extract useful in the compositions and methods of the invention are derived from chokeberry, bilberry, grape or combinations thereof. In preferred embodiments the carcinoma cells are colon carcinoma cells.